CELPIP Reading Practice Test 106

A free full-length CELPIP-General Reading practice test from CELPass.com: all 4 parts and 38 questions in the real test order, an answer sheet, the answer key and a score chart.

Part	Topic	Questions	Time
Part 1: Reading Correspondence	Lost in the Fog Near Port Rexton	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Ordering Shirts for a Summer Gathering	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Sable Island and Its Wild Horses	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Day-Use Beach Fee In Lac-Clairval Debate	29–38	about 13 minutes

How to take this test

1. Do all 4 parts in one sitting in about 55–60 minutes, timing each part.
2. Mark your answers on the answer sheet. Wrong answers lose no points, so answer every question.
3. Check your answers with the answer key and count your correct answers for an estimated CLB.

Prefer to take it on screen? The same test is free online at celpass.com/celpip/reading/practice-tests/106, marked as you go, with an estimated CLB. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

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Part 1: Reading Correspondence

Time: about 11 minutes

Lost in the Fog Near Port Rexton

> Dear Mr. Hollett,
>
> My name is Anjali Rao, and on the evening of August 14th, your team found my father and me on the coastal trail outside Port Rexton after we had been missing for nearly nine hours. I've started this letter several times, and every version has seemed too small for what I want to say. Still, I didn't want another month to go by without thanking you properly.
>
> I know now that we made almost every mistake a visitor can make. We set out at two in the afternoon on a trail we had read about online, with one bottle of water each and no map, because my phone had the route. When the fog rolled in, we lost sight of the markers, and by the time the battery died, I honestly couldn't have told you which direction the ocean was in. My father, who is seventy-one, had twisted his ankle on the rocks, so we decided to stay put rather than risk walking off a cliff in the dark. Looking back, it was the only sensible decision we made all day.
>
> It was Mrs. Penney, the owner of our B&B, who called the RCMP when we didn't come back for supper. I had no idea at the time that the people who came looking for us were volunteers who had left their own families and jobs on a weeknight. The young woman who reached us first, Kayla, wrapped my father in a foil blanket and kept him laughing the whole way back, even though she must have been exhausted. Please tell her that he now tells the story at every family dinner, and that she is always the hero of it.
>
> I've since learned that your team relies largely on donations for its equipment. I have enclosed a cheque, and my colleagues at the engineering firm where I work in Ottawa have organized a fundraiser in your team's name, which will run until the end of October. I would also like to help in a more lasting way. I'd be happy to write a short guide for your website, in plain language, about what visitors should carry and do before setting out, since I was exactly the kind of tourist who needed one.
>
> With deep gratitude,
>
> Anjali Rao

1. Why did Anjali write this letter?

A to complain about how long the search took
B to ask for advice before her next hiking trip
C to express her thanks and offer further help
D to request a copy of the official RCMP report

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2. Anjali and her father stayed where they were because

A moving in poor visibility seemed too dangerous.
B Kayla had told them by phone not to move.
C they expected Mrs. Penney to come for them.
D her father refused to walk any further.

3. What did Anjali later learn about the people who found them?

A They were RCMP officers on a regular shift.
B They had been searching the area for days.
C They were guests staying at the same B&B.
D They gave up their own time without pay.

4. What can be inferred about Anjali's phone?

A It had no signal anywhere on the trail.
B It was their only guide to the route.
C It was lost when the fog rolled in.
D It was used to call Mrs. Penney.

5. How does Anjali's father seem to feel about the experience now?

A He enjoys telling the story to his family.
B He still blames himself for twisting his ankle.
C He is too embarrassed to talk about it.
D He wishes they had kept walking that night.

6. Besides donating money, what does Anjali offer to do?

A join the team as a volunteer searcher
B speak to tourists arriving in Port Rexton
C prepare advice for visitors to read online
D buy new equipment for the team herself

Here is a response to the message. Complete the response by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

> Dear Ms. Rao,
>
> Thank you for your kind letter and your generous cheque. Please don't worry about **(7)** _____; most of the people we find never write at all, and your note has been passed around the whole team.
>
> You are too hard on yourselves. Plenty of experienced hikers have been caught out by fog on that stretch of coast, and your decision to **(8)** _____ made our job far easier. Kayla was delighted to hear that she's the star of your family dinners, although she says the real credit belongs to Mrs. Penney, who **(9)** _____.

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> As for your offer, we would welcome it. Many of our calls involve visitors who depend on their phones for directions, so a guide written from **(10)** _____ could reach people our usual warnings miss. Please also thank your colleagues in Ottawa; whatever their **(11)** _____ raises will go toward new radios.
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Mike Hollett

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** the length of your letter **B** the time it took to write **C** the size of your cheque **D** the call from Mrs. Penney

8. **A** follow the trail markers **B** head back toward the ocean **C** call for help on your phone **D** stay in one place

9. **A** raised the alarm when you missed supper **B** drove you to the start of the trail **C** lent you a map of the coast **D** brought a foil blanket for your father

10. **A** an engineer's training **B** the RCMP's records **C** a visitor's point of view **D** a local guide's experience

11. **A** spring hiking trip **B** fundraising campaign **C** office hiking club **D** online safety guide

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Ordering Shirts for a Summer Gathering



Read the following email message about the diagram on the left. Complete the email by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

> Subject: Shirts for July
>
> To: Rachel Arsenault
>
> From: Colin MacPhee
>
> Hi Rachel,
>
> Your mom told me after church on Sunday that you've agreed to help with the reunion in July, so I hope you don't mind me roping you in already. I've been looking into T-shirts and found a print shop in Summerside that seems like a good fit.
>
> We have 31 people confirmed so far, which puts us in the **(12)** _____ price range. I'd like the family crest on the front, and since it uses four different colours, we'll need **(13)** _____ printing. That works out to **(14)** _____ a shirt, which seems fair to me. Because we're ordering more than

two dozen, they'll also **(15)** _____, so we won't have to pay anyone to redraw the crest. Grandpa will want his name on the back, of course, but everyone else can do without.

Neither of us gets up to Summerside very often, so I'd rather pay **(16)** _____ than drive over to pick them up.

Could you collect sizes from your side of the family by the end of the month? Remember that the little ones will need youth sizes. I don't want to drop the ball on this the way I did with the name tags last year.

Thanks a million,

Colin

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** 12–23 shirt **B** 48-plus shirt **C** lowest **D** 24–47 shirt

13. **A** one-colour **B** full-colour **C** two-colour **D** two-sided

14. **A** $20 **B** $23 **C** $17 **D** $18

15. **A** add our names for free **B** deliver the shirts for free **C** help with the design for free **D** include matching tote bags

16. **A** the 25 percent rush fee **B** $5 a shirt for names **C** the $35 design fee **D** $15 for delivery

17. Colin and Rachel are most likely

A cousins.
B co-workers.
C neighbours.
D siblings.

18. What does Colin ask Rachel to do?

A drive to Summerside to place the order
B help him redraw the family crest
C gather shirt sizes from her relatives
D pay the delivery charge herself

19. When Colin says he doesn't want to "drop the ball," he means he doesn't want to

A lose the shirts on the way home.
B make a mistake or let things slip.
C spend too much money on the order.
D plan any games for the children.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Sable Island and Its Wild Horses

Paragraph A

Far out in the Atlantic Ocean, roughly 300 kilometres southeast of Halifax, lies a thin, curved strip of sand that has fascinated sailors, scientists and artists for centuries. Its name comes from the French word for sand, and from the air it looks like a narrow smile in the sea. Sable Island is about 40 kilometres long but never much more than a kilometre and a half wide, and it has no trees at all. Instead, its dunes are held in place by marram grass and other hardy plants whose roots trap the blowing sand. Because the island is made of sand rather than rock, it is constantly being reshaped, as storms and currents remove sand from some areas and deposit it in others.

Paragraph B

Long before it became known for its horses, Sable Island had a much darker reputation. Surrounded by shallow sandbars and frequently wrapped in fog, it has been the site of more than 350 recorded shipwrecks, earning it the nickname “Graveyard of the Atlantic.” In 1801, the colony of Nova Scotia set up a lifesaving station on the island, and its crews patrolled the beaches on horseback, ready to rescue shipwrecked sailors. Modern navigation equipment eventually made such wrecks rare, and the lifesaving station closed in the last century.

Paragraph C

Today, the island’s best-known residents are its wild horses, which number in the hundreds. They are not native; most historians believe they are descended from horses brought to the island in the eighteenth century. Since the 1960s they have been protected by law, and no one feeds them, treats them when they are sick or shelters them from storms. The horses live on the island’s grasses and dig into the sand to reach fresh water. They share their home with a huge colony of grey seals, which come ashore each winter to give birth, and with the Ipswich sparrow, a bird that nests almost nowhere else on Earth. In summer, terns and other seabirds also nest among the dunes.

Paragraph D

In 2013, Sable Island became a national park reserve managed by Parks Canada. Apart from a small number of staff and researchers, nobody lives there. Researchers come to study the horses, the seals and the birds, and weather observations have been recorded on the island for well over a century. Visiting, however, is far from simple. Most visitors arrive by small plane, which lands directly on the beach when the weather allows, while others come by private boat or on expedition ships. Every visitor must register with Parks Canada in advance and follow strict rules: no one may touch or feed the horses, and people must keep well back from them. As a result, only a few hundred people set foot on the island in a typical year.

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Decide which paragraph, A to D, has the information given in each statement below. Select E if the information is not given in any of the paragraphs.

20. The island's outline gradually changes because of the forces of nature. _____

21. Horses were once used to help save people at sea. _____

22. The number of horses has risen steadily since they were protected. _____

23. Sick horses are left to recover on their own. _____

24. Poor visibility contributed to the island's dangerous reputation. _____

25. Flights to the island depend on conditions at the time. _____

26. The island's plants help keep it from blowing away. _____

27. Visitors may camp overnight on the island if they register in advance. _____

28. Some of the island's animals breed there during the coldest season. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Day-Use Beach Fee In Lac-Clairval Debate

> On a sweltering Saturday in July, the municipal beach at Lac-Clairval, a Quebec village of about 1,800 in the Eastern Townships, can attract upward of 3,000 visitors. Parked cars line Chemin du Lac for two kilometres, and by mid-afternoon the washrooms have exhausted their paper. Councillors are deliberating a charge of $15 per car for non-residents on weekends and holidays from June to September, with residents exempt through a complimentary windshield sticker. Any charge would be reassessed after one season.
>
> Mayor Sylvie Gagnon, its sponsor, presents the measure as elementary fairness. Residents' property taxes finance the lifeguards, the cleaning and the parking enforcement, yet most weekend bathers live elsewhere. All proceeds would be reinvested in the beach, she stresses, and visitors remain welcome; they would merely "share the bill."
>
> Marc-André Lévesque, proprietor of a café and canoe rental on the main street, attributes over half his summer revenue to day visitors. "A family already out fifteen dollars will arrive carrying sandwiches, or else continue to the next lake, where parking is free," he predicts. He grants that crowds become "a real headache" on the busiest long weekends, but considers a handful of unpleasant Saturdays insufficient justification for a season-long rule. An outskirts parking lot with a shuttle strikes him as the sensible alternative.
>
> Hélène Roy, a biologist in retirement who chairs the shoreline association, takes little interest in who pays and considerable interest in how many arrive. Trampled vegetation alarms her far more than depleted dispensers. "If the objective is protecting the lake, behaviour must change," she says, and she doubts it will: divided among four occupants, the charge amounts to less than an ice cream apiece. Her preference is a daily ceiling on visitors, administered through free online reservations.
>
> Kwame Asante, who drives from Sherbrooke with his three children most summer weekends, would grumble but comply; his family uses the washrooms and swims under a lifeguard's eye, and another lake would add forty minutes each way. His sole complaint concerns notice. "Announce it in March," he pleads, "not on a Friday in July when we're already in the car."

29. Gagnon's reasoning would find most sympathy from

A Marc-André Lévesque
B Kwame Asante
C Hélène Roy
D families bound elsewhere

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30. Why does Lévesque mention sandwiches?

A to show crowds peak on long weekends
B to suggest a shuttle suits families
C to argue fifteen dollars means little
D to warn visitors would spend less

31. Which expression captures Roy's opinion of the charge?

A "It's a drop in the bucket."
B "Two wrongs don't make a right."
C "You get what you pay for."
D "Don't bite the hand that feeds you."

32. Which statement does the article support?

A Most residents would welcome a charge.
B The new revenue would rebuild the washrooms.
C Lévesque and Roy prefer alternatives.
D Asante would abandon this beach.

33. The article could best be headlined

A "Visitors Flee Lac-Clairval Over Beach Charge"
B "Beach Charge Would Save Lac-Clairval's Shoreline"
C "Can Lac-Clairval Stop Trampling Its Shore?"
D "Lac-Clairval's Beach: Whose Bill Is It?"

The following is a comment by a visitor to the website page. Complete the comment by choosing the best option to fill in each blank.

> My cottage on Lac-Clairval has stood here for twenty years, and the mayor is hardly exaggerating: some July weekends, strangers block my driveway. Nobody disputes the congestion. Still, councillors seem to me to be **(34)** _____. Our shops, moreover, would absorb the first blow if day-trippers **(35)** _____. It would be a pity to harm them for so little.
>
> Meanwhile, a charge of that size **(36)** _____. The shoreline chair's alternative appeals to me because it would **(37)** _____. Her years of watching that shoreline earn my trust.
>
> Whatever emerges, one visitor's request is surely reasonable: councillors should **(38)** _____, so that households can plan their summers accordingly.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** tackling the wrong problem **B** asking too much **C** blind to the crowds **D** overspending on lifeguards

35. **A** stopped using the washrooms during visits **B** reserved a spot online **C** brought lunch or went elsewhere **D** parked along Chemin du Lac

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36. **A** would barely cover the lifeguards **B** would scarcely deter a family **C** would punish smaller households **D** would restore the shoreline

37. **A** exempt local residents **B** move cars off the road **C** raise money instead **D** reduce bather numbers

38. **A** announce changes before summer **B** exempt families from Sherbrooke **C** review the scheme after a season **D** waive the charge for children

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Answer sheet

Write the letter of your answer for each question.

1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____	7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____	11 _____	12 _____
13 _____	14 _____	15 _____	16 _____
17 _____	18 _____	19 _____	20 _____
21 _____	22 _____	23 _____	24 _____
25 _____	26 _____	27 _____	28 _____
29 _____	30 _____	31 _____	32 _____
33 _____	34 _____	35 _____	36 _____
37 _____	38 _____		

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Answer key

Part 1: Lost in the Fog Near Port Rexton

1 C to express her thanks and offer further help

2 A moving in poor visibility seemed too dangerous.

3 D They gave up their own time without pay.

4 B It was their only guide to the route.

5 A He enjoys telling the story to his family.

6 C prepare advice for visitors to read online

7 B the time it took to write

8 D stay in one place

9 A raised the alarm when you missed supper

10 C a visitor's point of view

11 B fundraising campaign

Part 2: Ordering Shirts for a Summer Gathering

12 D 24–47 shirt

13 B full-colour

14 A $20

15 C help with the design for free

16 D $15 for delivery

17 A cousins.

18 C gather shirt sizes from her relatives

19 B make a mistake or let things slip.

Part 3: Sable Island and Its Wild Horses

20 A

21 B

22 E

23 C

24 B

25 D

26 A

27 E

28 C

Part 4: Day-Use Beach Fee In Lac-Clairval Debate

29 B Kwame Asante

30 D to warn visitors would spend less

31 A "It's a drop in the bucket."

32 C Lévesque and Roy prefer alternatives.

33 D "Lac-Clairval's Beach: Whose Bill Is It?"

34 A tackling the wrong problem

35 C brought lunch or went elsewhere

36 B would scarcely deter a family

37 D reduce bather numbers

38 A announce changes before summer

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Your estimated CLB

Correct answers (of 38)	Estimated level
37–38	CLB 12
35–36	CLB 11
33–34	CLB 10
31–32	CLB 9
28–30	CLB 8
24–27	CLB 7
19–23	CLB 6
15–18	CLB 5
10–14	CLB 4

An estimate: CELPIP converts raw scores with a table for each test form, so the real cut-offs vary a little.

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